



This monthly newsletter contains information on meetings, conferences, trainings, available grants and loans, Web sites, employment opportunities and miscellaneous information. Input and feedback are appreciated. For more information, contact M. Castain (415) 972-3264; email castain.maria@epa.gov or visit Web site: http://www.epa.gov/region09/cross_pr/indian/newslet.html

United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region 9, San Francisco, California

April 2006

Tribal Program Newsletter

Meetings and Conferences

Apr 11-13 Regional Tribal Operating Committee (RTOC) Meeting, San Francisco, CA

Contact Lilia Dignan (415) 972-3779 or email Dignan.lilia@epa.gov

Apr 19-20 2006 New York State Wetlands Forum Annual Conference, Syracuse, NY

For more information, contact Denise Lewis (518) 783-1322, e-mail info@wetlands.org or visit Web Site: <http://www.wetlandsforum.org>

May 1-4 National Tribal Environment Council Conference, Temecula, CA

For more information visit: <http://www.ntec.org> or contact David Conrad at dconrad@ntec.org

May 7-11 National Monitoring Conference: Connecting for Clean Water, San Jose, CA

This 5th conference is hosted by the National Water Quality Monitoring Council. If you have questions about the conference or would like to be placed on a mailing list, contact the 2006 Monitoring Conference Coordinator at (410) 356-8993, email at NWQMC2006@tetrattech-ffx.com or visit their Web site at <http://www.nwqmc.org>.

May 8-12 National Environmental Partnership Summit, Atlanta, GA

Region 4 will host this summit. This year's theme is about learning and creating opportunities for environmental stewardship - *Stewardship in Action: Our Responsibility, Our Environment*. Information on this summit can be found at Web site: <http://www.environmentalsummit.org/>

May 9-11 Energy Efficiency in Tribal Community, Denver, CO

The Council of Energy Resource Tribes is coordinating with federal, state, industry and tribal entities to hold a national conference on energy efficiency and weatherization with a focus on tribal communities. For more information, contact CERT at (303) 282-7576 or visit: <http://www.certreearth.com/events.php>

May 16-19 Tribal Drinking Water Conference, Reno, NV

This conference is sponsored by the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe and U.S. EPA Region 9. For more information, contact Lela G. Christensen, (775) 574-1000 ext. 245, email lgleyva@plpt.nsn.us or to go <http://www.plpt.nsn.us/conference/>

May 16-18 5th National Potentially Responsible Party (PRP) Search Enhancement Conference, St. Louis, MO

The National PRP Search Enhancement Conference provides personnel from EPA, states, tribes, and other federal agencies an opportunity to hear about developments in the PRP search field, exchange information, and learn how their respective agencies address PRP search issues. The conference is also intended to identify ways to enhance the PRP search process and EPA's support of case development and enforcement activities. For your convenience, a Web site has been developed to provide information on the hotel, agenda, registration, and contacts, as well as links to other relevant web sites. The address is: <http://prpsearchconference.dpra.com/>.

May 22-25 Annual National Conference of the Native American Fish & Wildlife Society, Bar Harbor, ME

This year's conference theme is *"Embrace Our Ancestor's Conservation Stewardship for Future Generations to Respect and Enjoy"*. Visit the Society's Web site (<http://www.nafws.org>) for a copy of the agenda, a pre-registration form, etc.



May30-Jun 2 13th Annual Cal/EPA Environmental Cross Media Enforcement

For more information, see <http://www.arb.ca.gov/training/enfsym.htm>

Jun 7-9 Climate Change and the Future of the American West: Exploring the Law and Policy Dimensions, Princeton University

The Natural Resources Law Center's 2006 summer conference will explore a wide range of issues from climate science, to the impacts of climate change on water resources and ecological systems. If you would like additional information about the conference, please contact the Center at nrlc@colorado.edu. This announcement along with additional information about the conference, as it becomes available, is posted at <http://www.colorado.edu/law/centers/nrlc/summerconference/>.

Jun 12-14 3rd Annual Navajo Nation Drinking Water Conference, Window Rock, AZ

The Public Water Systems Supervision Program will host this conference. For more information contact Valerie Spencer or Michelle K. Silver (928) 871-7755 or visit <http://www.navajopublicwater.org>

Aug 1-3 Regional Tribal Operating Committee (RTOC) Meeting, Elko, NV

Oct 30-31 Regional Tribal Operating Committee Meeting, San Francisco, CA

Contact Lilia Dignan (415) 972-3779 or email Dignan.lilia@epa.gov

Nov. 1-3 14th Annual Tribal Conference, San Francisco, CA

For more information, contact Hillary Hecht at (415) 972-3790 or email Hecht.hillary@epa.gov. Additional details will be sent as they become available

Training

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

Apr 10-13 Mitigation for Tribal Officials, Emmetsburg, MD

This course provides a 1-week overview of FEMA's mitigation programs. Students should have some familiarity with FEMA, in terms of its overall programs. Starting May 2005, states or tribes that don't have an approved mitigation plan are not eligible for certain kinds of FEMA assistance after a disaster. Tribes can either work through the county in which their tribe is located or develop their own state-level mitigation plan (in some states, like California, tribes cannot go through the county or state and must develop their own state-level plan). The contact for this class is Dawn Warehime (301) 447-1309; Dawn.Warehime@dhs.gov.

Apr 19-21 Solid Waste Enforcement Training, Morongo, CA

EPA Region 9 has engaged the National Indian Justice Center (NIJC) to develop and deliver a 2 ½ day training session on Solid Waste Management in Indian Country: Issues & Strategies. The focus on the session will be on current and critical issues like illegal dumping, the development and enforcement of tribal codes, jurisdictional conflicts, RCRA issues and other updates on solid waste management. For further information about the training program and to register call Joe Myers at 1-800-966-0662.

California Indian Health Services (IHS)



Apr 6 Greening Tribal Casinos, Sacramento, CA

U.S. EPA, IHS and BIA Area Office will hold a workshop on planning, building and operating environmental-friendly gaming facilities. Gilbert Pasqua is the point of contact and can be reached at (415) 972-3788.

Apr 25-27 Water Disinfection and Fluoridation for Small Water Systems, Phoenix, AZ

This course provides maintenance personnel with necessary skills and knowledge to effectively disinfect and fluoridate small community water supplies. Lessons include an overview of EPA regulations, chemical safety, treatment processes, field analysis, and dosage calculations. Hands-on exercises will emphasize maintenance and trouble-shooting of chemical feed pumps. To register online go to <http://www.opheng.ihs.gov> and fill-out the nomination request form. If you have questions, call David E. Robbins (760) 735-6891

Apr 11-13 Distribution Certification Exam Preparation Class, Sacramento, CA

Apr 18-20 Distribution Certification Exam Preparation Class, Sacramento, CA

May 15-18 Training for Water Treatment Exam, Ukiah, CA

To register for the training, or to get more details, please contact Mary Weber weber.mary@ihs.gov or call (707) 462-5314, ext. 105. There is no registration fee for the course and some travel expenses may be reimbursable.

Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals at North Arizona University (ITEP/NAU)

Apr 18-21 Environmental Radiation Monitoring for Tribes (Level 1), Las Vegas, NV



May 1-5 Air Pollution Technology (Tech) (Level 2), Las Vegas, NV

As with most ITEP courses, ITEP will pay for participants' travel and lodging as well as reimburse them for their per diem expenses. For more information, please contact Todd Barnell, (928) 523-3840 (phone); (928) 523-1266 (fax) or <http://www.nau.edu/itep>



May 4 Chemical Agents of Opportunity for Terrorism: The Medical and Psychological Consequences of Toxic Industrial Chemicals and Toxic Industrial Materials, San Francisco, CA. This course will be repeated on May 5-6 in Monterey, CA.

Common and unusual industrial chemicals may pose a threat as terrorist weapons. An appreciation of the many toxic chemicals available in our communities is crucial to prepare, identify and defend against chemical threats. This course provides awareness-level training for a variety of toxic syndromes likely to be encountered following exposures to "chemical agents of opportunity." For more information on the courses above, call Libby Vianu (415) 947-4319 or go to <http://www.trainex.org/offeringlist.cfm?courseid=275&all=yes>

Bill Helmich Associates Training Seminars

A brochure for training seminars is available from Bill Helmich Associates, P. O. Box 789, Sandia Park, NM 87047 (505) 281-9884 or visit: <http://www.billhelmichassociates.com>

National Enforcement Training Institute (NETI)

Apr 24-28 Superfund Academy 101, Philadelphia, PA

This week-long course will be held in Region 3 and will combine "Fundamentals of Superfund" and "Enforcement Process". Details are available at the following Web site <http://www.trainex.org>

July 11-14 CST 109 Basic Inspector Course, San Francisco, CA

NETI courses are for federal, state, local and tribal environmental personnel, including attorneys, inspectors, technical staff and investigators. All courses are free. Distance learning products, such as CD-ROMs or videotapes are mailed to students at no cost; classroom courses are free—the student only pays travel costs. Courses fill up early, so check their Web site for specific information <http://www.netionline.com>. Click on the NETI Course Catalog and Schedule button, and find the courses which are of interest. To request a printed Catalog, please call (202) 564-2430. For general information about NETI, contact Zena Aldridge at Aldridge.zeno@epa.gov or (740) 773-4039.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

NEPA courses provide information and skills necessary to prepare and review environmental assessments and environmental impact statements as mandated by NEPA and EPA's review and comment mandate under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act. The courses are open to newcomers to the NEPA program, associate NEPA reviewers, environmental reviewers from other federal agencies and as a refresher course for more experienced staff. If you have any questions, call Arthur Totten (202) 564-7164; fax: (202) 564-0072; email: totten.arthur@epa.gov

Nielson Environmental Field School

Courses are specifically designed to meet the training needs of environmental consultants, contractors and laboratory staff, government agency environmental staff, federal, state, regional, county, city, tribal, industry environmental staff: petrochemical, utility, landfill, manufacturing, mining and others. For more information, contact us at info@envirofieldschool.com or visit the following Web site: <http://www.envirofieldschool.com>

Inter Tribal Council of Arizona (ITCA)

To obtain more information on ITCA courses or to obtain an electronic version of their calendar, call Deborah Patton at (602) 258-4822

Grants and Loans

Financial Opportunities from the Western Regional Office, Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE)

EERE financial opportunities for tribes are managed by the Golden Field Office and detailed on the Tribal Energy Program Web site. This program provides financial and technical assistance to tribes for feasibility studies and shares the cost of implementing sustainable renewable energy installations on tribal lands. Relevant financial solicitations can be found on the funding opportunities page. All of these Web sites are on: <http://www.eere.energy.gov/financing/>

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)



Free Assistance for Healthy, Energy-efficient and Durable Housing

Global Green USA, a nonprofit environmental organization, has received funding from EPA Region 9 to offer assistance to tribal housing entities. The assistance will be in the form of finding ways to incorporate green building strategies into planned affordable housing developments. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Pamela Cepe at (310) 581-2700 x107 or pcepe@globalgreen.org. For more information on Green Building visit EPA's site at <http://www.epa.gov/greenbuilding> and Global Green at <http://www.globalgreen.org/programs/building.html>.

Community-based Partnerships

EPA announced that funds are available to support community-based partnerships to reduce toxic risks in local communities. EPA will award about \$2.7 million in cooperative agreements in two levels through the Community Action for a Renewed Environment (CARE) program. Level I cooperative agreements will help

establish community-based partnerships and set priorities for reducing toxic risks in a community. EPA anticipates awarding eight to ten cooperative agreements under Level I, ranging from \$75,000 to \$100,000. Level II cooperative agreements are for communities that already have a broad-based collaborative partnership, have identified risk reduction priorities and are ready to implement risk reduction strategies. EPA expects to award six to eight cooperative agreements, ranging from \$150,000 to \$300,000. A range of community groups may apply for funding, including county and local governments, tribes, non-profit organizations and universities. The CARE program helps to build broad-based local partnerships for reducing risks from toxic pollutants that come from numerous sources. For additional information about CARE, projects awarded in 2005, or how to apply for the cooperative agreements, visit EPA's Web site at: <http://www.epa.gov/care>. or contact Roxanne Smith, (202) 564-4355 smith.roxanne@epa.gov

EPA Region 9's Pollution Prevention (P2) Program

The P2 Program is soliciting proposals to fund projects supporting source reduction/pollution prevention activities focusing on promotion of green building for residential construction and reduction of priority chemicals. Funding will be in the form of grants or cooperative agreements, depending on the nature of the project. EPA Region 9 expects to have approximately \$175,000 available in fiscal year 2006 to fund source reduction/pollution prevention projects. Approximately 2 to 5 awards will be awarded under this announcement, ranging in size from \$25,000 to \$100,000. Awards will not be issued for more than \$100,000. For more information, contact: Jessica Counts, (415) 972-3288 or John Katz (415) 972-3283 counts.jessica@epa.gov or katz.john@epa.gov or go to: <http://www.epa.gov/region09/funding/p2-sourcesup06.html>

EPA Region 9 Water Infrastructure Loans available to Tribes

The Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) loans are innovative methods of financing a range of water quality and safe drinking water projects. Under the CWSRF & DWSRF programs, EPA Region 9 provides grants or "seed money" to the states of Arizona, California, Hawaii and Nevada to capitalize individual state CWSRF and DWSRF loan funds. The states, in turn, make loans to communities, and individuals, for high-priority water quality and drinking water activities. Tribes are also eligible to receive CWSRF and DWSRF loans from the states. The programs are managed by the states, and loans or other types of assistance for water quality and drinking water projects are distributed according to each state's program and priorities. Eligible projects under the DWSRF include installation and replacement of failing treatment facilities, eligible storage facilities and transmission and distribution systems. Projects to consolidate water supplies may also be eligible. CWSRF loans are used to build or improve wastewater treatment plants, to develop or implement estuary improvement projects, and to implement nonpoint source pollution control activities. For more state specific information about the CWSRF and DWSRF programs, visit the U.S. EPA, Region 9 Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/region09/water>

Indian Country Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) Multi-Year Cleanup Initiative

EPA Region 9 recently announced the Indian Country LUST multi-year cleanup initiative. Using LUST trust funds, EPA will pay for site assessments and cleanups on LUST sites on tribal lands. EPA has contracted a Native Alaskan-owned firm, Bristol Environmental, to assist with the work. EPA has identified more than 200 LUST sites on the lands of 17 different tribes. Further sites may be identified as the work progresses. For more information, please contact Carl Warren, UST Program Office, at (415) 972-3355 or email to: warren.carl@epa.gov

Environmental Education Grants Program (EEGP)

EPA requests proposals for EEGP. This program supports environmental education projects that promote environmental stewardship and help develop aware and responsible students, teachers, and citizens. \$3 million is expected to be available and 150 awards are anticipated. For more information, contact Diane Berger at (202) 564-0451 or go to: http://www.epa.gov/enviroed/grants_sol2006.html .



Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program

EPA requests proposals for the FY06 Phase 1 of the SBIR Program. This procurement is a total small business set-aside. Areas of interest include, but are not limited to: Green Buildings, Innovation in Manufacturing for Environmental Protection, Water and Wastewater Management, Mining and Mine Waste Management, Management of Animal Feeding Operations, Agriculture and Rural Community Improvement, Engine and Vehicle Emissions Reduction, Lead Paint Detection and Removal. Up to 40 contract awards are anticipated. The RFP will open on or about March 23, 2006 and close May 24, 2006. For more information, contact Marsha Johnson at johnson.marsha@epa.gov or go to: <http://www.epa.gov/ncer/sbir/> .



Native American Energy Self Sufficiency

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Native Americans (ANA) requests applications for the Social and Economic Development Strategies Program. ANA promotes the goal of economic and social self-sufficiency for American Indians, Native Hawaiians, Alaskan Natives, and other Native American Pacific Islanders, including American Samoa Natives. Areas of interest include, but are not limited to, implementing initiatives based on feasibility studies that assessed the economic potential of energy resources in their community, including renewable energy sources such as bioenergy, geothermal, hydrogen, hydropower, ocean, solar, wind or other methods appropriate to the tribe and geographical location. \$9 million is expected to be available and 50 to 75 awards are anticipated. Responses due April 4, 2006. For more information, contact Tim Chappelle at tichappelle@acf.hhs.gov or go to: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/open/HHS-2006-ACF-ANA-NA-0003.html> .



Water Conservation Assessment Project

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) requests applications for the Integrated Research, Education, and Extension Competitive Grants Program-Conservation Effects Assessment Project. This program supports education and extension projects aimed at improving the quality of water resources in agricultural watersheds across the nation. \$2.6 million is expected to be available and individual awards will not exceed \$660K. Responses are due April 11. For more information, contact Joanna Moore at moneill@csrees.usda.gov or go to: <http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppld=7888> .



National Integrated Water Quality Program

USDA requests applications for the Integrated Research, Education, and Extension Competitive Grants Program - National Integrated Water Quality Program (NIWQP). Funded projects should lead to science-based decision-making and management practices that improve the quality of the Nation's surface water and groundwater resources in agricultural and rural watersheds. \$10.2 M is expected to be available and individual awards will not exceed \$600K. Responses are due April 11. For more information, contact

Joanna Moore at moneill@csrees.usda.gov or go to:
<http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&opId=7889>.



Water Infrastructure Funding

USDA Rural Development has water infrastructure funding available for tribes under the Native American Grants program. This year, \$16.3M is available nationwide. Eligible tribes must have a per capita income of no more than \$15,110, an unemployment rate of at least 6.25%, and a documented public health or environmental need. Click on the state office link: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/2006funding.htm>
California Tribes may also call Dave Hartwell at (503) 792-5817.



Water 2025: Preventing Crisis and Conflict in the West

U.S. Department of Interior (DOI) requests proposals for the Water 2025 Challenge Grant Program. This program supports projects within the 17 Western States that create water markets and make more efficient use of existing water supplies. \$1 million is expected to be available and up to ten awards are anticipated. Responses are due May 5, 2006. For more information, contact Randale Jackson at rjackson@do.usbr.gov or go to: <http://www.doi.gov/water2025/RFP2006/>.

Watershed Funding

Plan2Fund™ is a Watershed Planning Tool developed by the Environmental Finance Center at Boise State University that helps organizations determine their funding needs to meet the goals and objectives of their Watershed Program Plan. This tool walks users through estimating the costs of their Watershed Program Plan's Goals and Objective, assessing any local matches, and determining funding needs to meet Goals and Objectives. To download this tool, go to: <http://sspa.boisestate.edu/efc/> or call toll free (866) 627-9847 to receive a free copy by mail.

Smart Growth Implementation Assistance

The Development, Community and Environment Division in U.S. EPA's Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation is seeking applications from communities that want to develop ways to meet environmental community goals. A team of multidisciplinary experts will provide technical assistance to communities that are selected. For more information and application materials call Mary Kay (Santore) Bailey, (202) 566-2859 or go to: http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/sg_implementation.html

Integrated Waste Management Board

The Farm and Ranch Solid Waste Cleanup and Abatement Grant Programs provide funding from the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) for cleanup of illegal solid waste sites on farm or ranch property. Grants are limited to \$50,000 per cleanup or abatement project with a limit of \$200,000 per year for each eligible applicant. Only cities, counties, resource conservation districts and Native American tribes may apply. There are no specific filing dates; grant applications are accepted continuously and reviewed on a quarterly basis. General information and an application package are available on Web site: <http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov> or by calling (916) 341-6316

Indian Health Service (IHS) Web-based Sanitation Deficiency System (SDS)

IHS selects tribal drinking water, wastewater, and solid waste construction projects for funding every year from their SDS list. This list is accessible on the Internet at <https://wstars.ihs.gov> through a Public Login. To review a list of tribal projects on the SDS list, including their relative ranking, select an IHS Area and run a report of the SDS one-line listing. If you know of a tribal infrastructure need that should be included on the SDS list, but is not, contact your local IHS Office of Environmental Health to learn how the list is updated for your tribe.

Housing and Community Development in California

Grants are available to cities and counties to fund housing and community development activities. Applicants that do not receive Community Development Block Grant Program funds directly from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) are eligible. Eligible activities include new construction and rehabilitation of housing, community facilities, infrastructures, and public services. A set-aside allocation of funds is awarded to projects serving Native Americans who do not belong to a federally recognized Indian tribe or Rancheria. Another set-aside of funds is awarded to non-entitlement communities (colonias) located within 150 miles of the California/Mexico border. For more information, call Allen Jones (916) 319-8402 or email ajones@hcd.ca.gov

California Bay-Delta Authority Science Grants

This program seeks to invest in projects that develop new knowledge about how water use and management activities interact with and affect key aquatic species and environmental processes across spatial and temporal scales. The geographic areas of interest are the San Francisco Bay Estuary and the Bay-Delta System. To access detailed information about this opportunity, please visit: <http://www.solicitation.calwater.ca.gov> or call the Cal Water Helpline at (877) 408-9310.

California Endowment Program

The California Endowment is pleased to offer a new Grant Application Guide for prospective applicants. Several changes have been made in application procedures to better focus resources to make lasting improvements in the health of Californians. In conjunction with the launch, The Endowment is also hosting a series of information sessions throughout the state. For more information, please go to <http://www.calendow.org> or call (800) 449-4149.

Funding Sources for Communities

A grants list of the updated version to the Funding Sources for Communities matrix can be viewed by going to the following Web address: <http://www.epa.gov/region09/funding/index.html>
For more information, call Jessica Counts (415) 972-3288.

Employment Opportunities

The Zuni Tribe has an Environmental Protection Specialist opening in the Division of Natural Resources. The person who fills this position will be responsible for researching Zuni, federal and state environmental policies, codes and regulations as they pertain to the concerns of the Pueblo of Zuni. For a job application or to find out more information, please contact the Zuni Tribe, Human Resources Office, P.O. Box 339, Zuni, NM 87327, (505) 782-7085.

Miscellaneous items



Introduction to Mold and Mold Remediation for Environmental and Public Health Professionals

This web course contains information on mold prevention and remediation. It is designed primarily for environmental and public health professionals. There are has nine chapters and these chapters are divided into smaller lessons. At the end of each chapter there is a voluntary quiz to test your understanding of the material covered. For general information on mold, flooding, EPA mold brochures, and other mold and moisture control related resources see <http://www.epa.gov/mold>.



May is Asthma Awareness Month and World Asthma Day is May 2, 2006.

In support of Asthma Awareness Month, EPA developed a free Event Planning Kit, an Asthma Awareness Month Web page, and Event Listing forms. Visit <http://www.epa.gov/asthma/awm.html> or enter "Asthma Awareness Month and indoor environments" in your Internet search engine to view the Web site link. The planning kit is a free resource for community organizers, health care providers, school nurses, teachers, and everyone who is committed to raising awareness of asthma triggers and their management. For more information, contact Louis Hill at hill.louise@epa.gov or (415) 947-4192.

Revisions to Ambient Air Monitoring Regulations

On January 17th, EPA proposed a new PM-2.5 standard, a new PM-coarse (PM-10 - 2.5) standard, and a revocation of the existing PM-10 standards. On the same day, EPA also proposed new particulate monitoring regulations. This information is being sent in order to provide you with the relevant information as quickly as possible, so you have the opportunity to comment. The deadline for public comments is April 17, 2006. The link to the Federal Register notices is <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/EPA-AIR/2006/January/Day-17/>

National Incident Management System (NIMS)

The guidelines for incorporating NIMS into your Emergency Operations Plans (different from mitigation plans) and any Standardized Operating Procedures (SOPs) have been published on the NIMS website! These guidelines can be found on the NIMS Web site at <http://www.fema.gov/nims>. There are two separate documents for states/territories and local/tribal. Both are 33 pages. Also newly available is a 2-page guidance document for Incident Command System (ICS) instructors, and this can also be found on the Web site.

Toolkit for Schools to Help Reduce Lead in Drinking Water

The "3Ts for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water at Schools and Childcare Facilities Toolkit" contains materials to implement voluntary training and testing. EPA developed the toolkit in conjunction with non-government organizations and several federal agencies. For more information go to: <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/schools/guidance.html>

EPA Guidelines and General Guidance

A "how-to" guide for implementing EPA's Voluntary National Guidelines for Management of Onsite and Clustered (Decentralized) Wastewater Treatment Systems is final. The guide describes a step-by-step approach for the development of a community management program for decentralized wastewater systems. It includes specific community examples, gives an overview of the elements essential for sound management of these systems, and provides links to extensive resources. For more information go to: <http://cfpub.epa.gov/owm/septic/guidelines.cfm#handbook>

Tribal Windows to the Environment

EPA American Indian Environmental Office (AIEO) announces the release of a software application, Tribal Windows to the Environment that provides information on tribes from major EPA data sources. The Web address is <http://oaspub.epa.gov/tims/twe.html>. This is a temporary site and the location may change. It has no password and is accessible to the public. If you have questions or suggestions, please contact Ed Liu at (202) 564-0287.

Sustainable Earth Initiative (SEI) designated by EPA to help government entities address environmental challenges

Oakland-based nonprofit SEI has been designated by EPA as the Region 9 Local Resource Center, providing Environmental Management Systems (EMS) development and implementation assistance to governmental entities, including cities, counties and tribal governments. EMS is a well established tool to help local governments prevent pollution, operate more efficiently and improve environmental performance within their communities. SEI provides a range of services to local governments including, training, implementation assistance and coaching. SEI co-founders Gary Lucks and Susan Sakaki offer introductory and training workshops, and related implementation assistance to tribal organizations. Call Susan Sakaki at (510) 531-5377 for information on SEI. For information on the EPA program go to <http://www.peercenter.net>. For information on SEI: go to <http://www.sustainableearthinitiative.org>

EPA Pilot Projects Make Emergency Exempted and Special Local Needs Pesticides Available in Indian Country

On November 1, 2005, the EPA Administrator authorized two findings that will allow growers in Indian country to use the same pesticides for combating pests in emergency situations as growers on neighboring land. In order to test the feasibility of this approach, the Agency is implementing two pilot projects. The first will allow growers in the Yakama Reservation and other Yakama Nation Indian country in Washington State to have access to all pesticides that are approved for use in counties geographically encompassing or contiguous to such Indian country through the emergency exemption and special local needs provisions of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act. The second pilot project will allow growers in Indian country nationwide to use emergency exempted and special local needs pesticides that are approved for use in counties geographically encompassing or contiguous to such areas of Indian country against a newly arrived pest species called Asian soybean rust, an extraordinarily destructive fungus that was first discovered in the United States in September 2004. For more information on pesticides that EPA has made available to combat soybean rust, visit <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/> or call Dan Helfgott (703) 308-8054

National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH) and Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)

NCEH and ATSDR are soliciting interested persons to serve as members on the Community Tribal Subcommittee (CTS) of the NCEH/ATSDR Board of Scientific Counselors (BSC). The BSC is chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. app.). The CTS is composed of members of NCEH/ATSDR BSC and members representing community and tribal perspectives on environmental health issues. More information on NCEH can be found at <http://www.cdc.gov/nceh>. Also, you may contact Leslie Campbell, toll-free 1-888-422-8737

Baseline Needs Assessment (BNA)

The BNA was prepared by the National Tribal Environmental Council and Rural Community Assistance Corporation under a grant from the EPA to the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California, working in conjunction with the Region 9 Tribal Caucus and the Region 9 RTOC Drinking Water/Wastewater Subcommittee. For complete details, visit the following Web site: http://www.epa.gov/region09/cross_pr/indian/bna/

Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Program.

The State Water Resources Control Board is inviting public comment on proposed amendments to the SRF Loan Policy. The SRF Loan Program provides low-interest loans for the construction of publicly owned wastewater treatment and water recycling facilities, correction of non-point source and storm water drainage pollution problems. The proposed amendments are intended to integrate the concept of sustainability into the SRF Policy consistent with State Water Board Resolution No. 2005-0006. The State Water Board will immediately begin accepting new applications and resume processing those applications that were previously under review. For more information, please go to: <http://www.epa.gov/region09/water>

Composting Programs

EPA's latest Tribal Waste Journal focusing on tribal composting programs is now in print and available on EPA's Web site at: <http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/tribal/pdftxt/twj-4.pdf>. The journal highlights tribes that are making great strides in solid waste management through composting. Read about how these tribes started their composting programs to divert waste, save on waste disposal costs, and nourish land and tradition.

Criminal Investigation Division (CID)

Region 9's Criminal Investigation Division (CID) provides training to tribal governments on investigations of environmental crimes. CID can provide a short presentation on who they are and what they do, or they can provide more detailed classroom training for police officers and regulators on what to look for in environmental investigations. CID can also recommend tribal officers to a two-week training for environmental investigators at the Law Enforcement Academy in Georgia. Tribes wishing to request this training should contact Pam Overman, Tribal Program Office, at (415) 972-3781 or overman.pamela@epa.gov.

Lead Hazards

The Passamaquoddy Pleasant Point Tribe of Maine has a tribal-based environmental protection Web site <http://www.tbep.net> on products that were developed to educate children and their parents on lead hazards. Please feel free to browse and download any of these products. Also look at the Lead Tracker Teachers Manual at <http://www.tbep.net/LEADTRACKER/index.htm>.

The Penobscot Indian Nation has developed a curriculum in conjunction with the University of Connecticut Continuing Education program for 3- 4th graders which encourages students to look out for lead hazards as well as steps to take to minimize exposure to lead. This product is available in English and Spanish. Please feel free to download the manual in PDF formats <http://www.tbep.net/MotherBear/index.htm>. For more information, please call (617)-918-1524 or fax (617)-918-0524.

Community Health Air Pollution Information System (CHAPIS)

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) has developed an internet-based mapping tool that allows a look at a map to view sources of air pollution. This system makes information regarding air pollution emissions available in ways that are visual and easy to understand. The air pollutant emission information contained in CHAPIS is for general information. Please consult your local air district for the most recent data available for specific facilities. The CARB should be contacted regarding mobile source emissions. For more information, visit: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/ch/chapis1/chapis1.htm>

Web sites for tribal programs and other federal programs

EPA .Region 9 'Approach to Tribal Consultation' documents are now online:

http://www.epa.gov/region09/cross_pr/indian/res.html

http://www.epa.gov/region09/cross_pr/indian/consultation-approach-signed-memo.pdf

http://www.epa.gov/region09/cross_pr/indian/consultation-approach-final.pdf

http://www.epa.gov/region09/cross_pr/indian/consultation-approach-exhibit-a.pdf

http://www.epa.gov/region09/cross_pr/indian/consultation-approach-exhibit-b.pdf

http://www.epa.gov/region09/cross_pr/indian/consultation-approach-exhibit-c.pdf



The following Web site is for tribes who have started community gardens/greenhouses.

<http://www.nativeseeds.org/v2/default.php>



<http://www.epa.gov/region09/funding/index.html>

<http://www.wapa.gov/es/pubs/fctsheet/casino%20fact%20Sheet.pdf>

<http://www.epa.gov/region09/indian/res.html>

<http://www.epa.gov/region09/waste/brown/grants.html>

<http://www.epa.gov/region09/waste/solid/indianwaste.html>

<http://www.epa.gov/ow/waterplan/tribal/index.html>

<http://www.epa.gov/region09/water/tribal/>